

## CLAIMS

### *What is claimed is:*

- 1 1. A method for providing workflow management of a supply chain,  
2 comprising the steps of:
  - 3 (a) allowing businesses to engage in activities utilizing a network, wherein the  
4 activities each include a plurality of steps;
  - 5 (b) updating at least one document for each activity upon completion of each of  
6 the steps;
  - 7 (c) executing services to acquire information from users utilizing the network;  
8 and
  - 9 (d) performing tasks to populate the document with the information gathered by  
10 the execution of the services.
- 1 2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the businesses are apparel  
2 businesses.
- 1 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the document provides an audit  
2 trail of the associated activity.
- 1 4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein only a single user can execute a  
2 service at a time.
- 1 5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the document is published after  
2 the services are executed in order to allow the users to initiate the  
3 performance of the tasks.
- 1 6. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein contracts exist between the steps  
2 of the activity, and further comprising the step of enforcing the completion of  
3 the steps utilizing the contracts.

- 1 7. A computer program product for providing workflow management of a  
2 supply chain, comprising:
- 3 (a) computer code for allowing businesses to engage in activities utilizing a  
4 network, wherein the activities each include a plurality of steps;
- 5 (b) computer code for updating at least one document for each activity upon  
6 completion of each of the steps;
- 7 (c) computer code for executing services to acquire information from users  
8 utilizing the network; and
- 9 (d) computer code for performing tasks to populate the document with the  
10 information gathered by the execution of the services.
- 1 8. The computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein the businesses  
2 are apparel businesses.
- 1 9. The computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein the document  
2 provides an audit trail of the associated activity.
- 1 10. The computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein only a single  
2 user can execute a service at a time.
- 1 11. The computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein the document  
2 is published after the services are executed in order to allow the users to  
3 initiate the performance of the tasks.
- 1 12. The computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein contracts exist  
2 between the steps of the activity, and further comprising computer code for  
3 enforcing the completion of the steps utilizing the contracts.
- 1 13. A system for providing workflow management of a supply chain,  
2 comprising:

- 3 (a) logic for allowing businesses to engage in activities utilizing a network,  
4 wherein the activities each include a plurality of steps;  
5 (b) logic for updating at least one document for each activity upon completion of  
6 each of the steps;  
7 (c) logic for executing services to acquire information from users utilizing the  
8 network; and  
9 (d) logic for performing tasks to populate the document with the information  
10 gathered by the execution of the services.

1 14. The system as recited in claim 13, wherein the businesses are apparel  
2 businesses.

1 15. The system as recited in claim 13, wherein the document provides an audit  
2 trail of the associated activity.

1 16. The system as recited in claim 13, wherein only a single user can execute a  
2 service at a time.

1 17. The system as recited in claim 13, wherein the document is published after  
2 the services are executed in order to allow the users to initiate the  
3 performance of the tasks.

1 18. The system as recited in claim 13, wherein contracts exist between the steps  
2 of the activity, and further comprising logic for enforcing the completion of  
3 the steps utilizing the contracts.